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Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CEA-01 EB-07 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07

NEA-10 TRSE-00 FEAE-00 INT-05 CIEP-01 OMB-01 AGR-05

STR-04 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 FRB-03

XMB-02 /132 W
---------- 079741
R 121536Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3046
INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 23544

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, UNGA
SUBJ: THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH, UNGA, AND THE DC-LDC DIALOGUE

REF: STATE 207669

1. FROMENT-MEURICE, CHIEF ECONOMIC DIVISION MFA, TOLD EMBOFFS SEPT. 11 THAT GOF BELIEVES SECRETARY'S SPEECH HAS HAD POSITIVE IMPACT ON PROCESS OF 7TH SPECIAL UNGA SESSION. RANGE OF SUBSTANTIVE USG PROPOSALS ON NON-ENERGY ITEMS HAS SHOWN THAT USG POSITION ON DIALOGUE WITH LDCS IS NOT SIMPLY TACTICAL. WHILE NOTING THAT "SOME" GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE TO HAVE DOUBTS CONCERNING USG INTENTIONS, FROMENT-MEURICE SAID GOF DOES NOT SHARE THEM, AND BELIEVES THERE HAS BEEN MAJOR EVOLUTION IN USG POSITION. DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ARE WORKING TO MEET DESIRES OF LDC'S, HE SAID, AND QUESTION NOW IS TO FIND MECHANISMS TO PURSUE NEGOTIATIONS.

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2. ON LINK BETWEEN UN DEBATES AND DC-LDC DIALOGUE

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EVOLVING FROM PARIS PREPCON, FROMENT-MEURICE
STRESSED INDEPENDENT NATURE OF LATTER AND
NECESSITY IN GOF EYES TO KEEP IT FROM BEING
SUBORDINATED TO UNGA. GOF, HE SAID, WISHES TO HAVE
MAJOR WORK DONE IN THE "GROUP OF 27" FRAMEWORK BUT
RECOGNIZES THAT TECHNICAL NEGOTIATIONS AND/OR
IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS WILL OFTEN HAVE TO TAKE
PLACE IN OTHER FORUMS. (HE NOTED, HOWEVER,
POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF OIL NEGOTIATIONS WHICH MIGHT
BE CARRIED TO COMPLETION IN ENERGY COMMISSION.)
HE IMPLIED THAT GOF WILL APPROACH PROBLEMS OF
LINKAGE BETWEEN WORK OF UNGA, COMMISSIONS, AND
SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ON CASE BY CASE BASIS. HE AGREED,
HOWEVER, WITH OUR SUGGESTION THAT TIME HAD COME TO
CONCENTRATE ON SUBSTANCE RATHER THAN MODALITIES.

3. RETURNING TO KISSINGER SPEECH, FROMENT-MEURICE
SAID GOF HAS FEW MAJOR PROBLEMS WITH US PROPOSALS
(THOUGH HE SUBSEQUENTLY NOTED THAT GOF CONTINUES TO
BE "RELUCTANT" TO JOIN GRAIN STOCKPILING SCHEME AND AS
YET HAS NOT MADE DECISION ON IFAD CONTRIBUTION).
HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN SOME GOF DISAPPOINTMENT
WITH US POSITION ON COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, WHICH HE
FELT HAD NOT EVOLVED AS MUCH AS HE WOULD HAVE LIKED;
ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMODITY FORUMS WAS ONLY WEAK FIRST
STEP. SWITCHING TO PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT FACILITY,
FROMENT-MEURICE SAID GOF DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHETHER
OR NOT IT WAS EXPECTED TO REPLACE TOTALLY IMF COMPENSA-
TORY FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS, NOR HOW ITS FINANCING
WAS FORESEEN (HE NOTED FOR EXAMPLE THAT GOLD SALE
PROCEEDS WERE NOT POSSIBLE SOURCE AS THEY HAD BEEN
EARMARKED FOR TRUST FUND). WHOLE QUESTION OF
"PROLIFERATING" SPECIAL FUNDS GAVE GOF SOME PROBLEM,
FROMENT-MEURICE CONTINUED; THEIR END RESULT MAY BE
ONLY TO COMPOUND LDC DEBT PROBLEMS. DC'S MOREOVER

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SHOULD NOT GIVE IMPRESSION OF BEING TOO EASY ON POSSIBLE DEBT RESCHEDULINGS OR FORGIVENESS. CONCLUDING, HE SAID THAT EXPANDED TRADE, STABLE EXPORT EARNINGS, AND IMPROVED MARKET ACCESS FOR FINISHED GOODS ARE, IN GOF EYES, MORE IMPORTANT TO IMPROVING LDC POSITION THAN STOPGAP OR EMERGENCY FINANCING MECHANISMS.

4. FROMENT-MEURICE SAID HE CONSIDERED PROBLEMS ON PHRASING OF FRENCH AIDE-MEMOIRE ALMOST RESOLVED AND THAT INVITATIONS TO RESUMED PREPCON WOULD PROBABLY BE ISSUED EARLY NEXT WEEK. HE INDICATED THAT GOF EXPECTED TO RUN INTO SOME FLAK FROM LDC'S ON CHOSEN PHRASEOLOGY BUT SEEMED TO FEEL PROBLEMS WOULD BE MANAGEABLE. ALTHOUGH HE NOTED THAT MANY PROBLEMS (MEMBERSHIP OF COMMISSIONS, ETC.) REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED, DIALOGUE SHOULD BE RELAUNCHED SOON IN PROMISING ATMOSPHERE PROVIDED THAT A "BAD CLIMATE" DOES NOT DEVELOP IN
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WAKE OF OPEC SESSION. HE ALSO MADE STRONG POINT THAT WE CANNOT EXPECT MINISTERIAL LEVEL CONFERENCE TO BE PERFUNCTORY EXERCISE; CONSENSUS ACHIEVED AMONG 10 COULD EASILY COME UNSTUCK IN BROADER FORUM WHOSE MEMBERSHIP IS STILL AN OPEN ISSUE.
RUSH

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